9/24/03

Neal Fishman **Assistant Director** California Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, Suite 1100 Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Mr. Fishman,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write this letter of support for the Adopt-A-Watershed (AAW) request for funds to support their extraordinary work. I have worked closely with AAW during the past two years, as the director of a school-within-a-school at Berkeley High School and now as the leader of a design team for a new ecologically focused high school in the Bay Area. I have personally participated in their leadership training programs and have watched eight of my staff members and three of my students take quantum leaps as ecological stewards through their participation in the AAW leads ship institutes

I feel that AAW is a premier change agent at the intersection of professional development, acutagic planning community building, curriculum development, educational theory and technical support for ecological stewardship and restoration. Their approach to leadership training reflects years of dedicate competent, accountable and reflective work in the field. Because of the sophistical on in AAW's sualysis and approach to leadership - emphasizing stakeholder inclusion, reflective condice, technics competence, alignment to standards, and community partnerships - the work they important and cos a has unprecedented depth and promise for sustainability.

On a personal note, the eight days that my current design team spent together at the AAW leadership institute this summer were life and career altering for us. AAW imparts lucid strategy and practical tools, but they also create a context for the intangible things that distinguish art from work, and contagious micro movements from simple projects.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is any way I can be of further assistance to AAW in this matter.

Sincerely,

Dana Richards

Common Ground Leadership Team Facilitator and

Environmental Education Consultant

September 24, 2003 Neal Fishman Assistant Director

California Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, Suite 1100 Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Mr. Fishman,



BRANCIFORTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

840 N. Branciforte Avenue Santa Cruz, California 95062 (831) 429-3898

I recently heard that Adopt-A-Watershed has approached the Coastal Conservancy for support in delivering their educational leadership programs in coastal communities. As a member of one of the Leadership Teams that works to protect coastal resources, I wanted to express my support for their request.

The Adopt-A-Watershed program served as a critical piece in the growth of our school community watershed program. I attended the Leadership Institutes for 4 years beginning in the summer of 1998. The training I received resulted in the development of our schoolwide watershed theme at Branciforte Elementary, and the ultimate partnership that we now have with the Neighbors of Branciforte Watershed and the Coastal

Watershed Council. The Adopt A Watershed model of combining education with environmental stewardship has enabled us at Branciforte to build a strong program where our low income and predominantly Latino children are participating in local, community based projects serving the protection of our San Lorenzo River watershed. Last Spring, our school was featured in an Art Exhibit at our local Museum of Art and History to showcase the reflections of the students. Through the years AAW has supported the education of teachers throughout our local region by co-presenting workshops in many aspects of environmental education and artistic reflection, such as the River of Words art and poetry training that led to the museum exhibit. My training in the Leadership Institutes has enabled me to work as a productive member of my regional team, and to assist other teachers and schools with their development of environmental education and project based learning goals.

As a representative of the Branciforte Elementary Adopt A Watershed team, I urge you to support this valuable program, as it presents excellent opportunities for strong, enduring and meaningful coastal resource protection. Thank you for considering their request.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Novelli, Branciforte Elementary

1EAM: Monterey Bay Region

COMMUNITY: Santa Cruz



September 24,2003

Neal Fishman Assistant Director California Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, Suite 1100 Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Mr. Fishman,

We understand that Adopt-A-Watershed has approached the Coastal Conservancy for support in delivering their educational leadership programs in coastal communities. The Van Duzen Team is one of their Leadership Teams working to protect coastal resources, improve water quality, raise awareness of coastal issues, and restore quality salmon habitat.

The Adopt-A-Watershed program is vital to our group and to our community. Through the Leadership Training, we were able to meet with other groups in California, and to build a network of coastal groups in California. Leadership training, strategic planning, and implementation of place based learning is critical to our watershed education projects throughout the Van Duzen Basin. Adopt a Watershed programs are helping us to develop the community capacity to restore and protect our local watershed and coastal community.

The model of combining education with environmental stewardship is proving to be beneficial for our local community and touching the lives of many children. Educating children in our schools regarding watershed and coastal issues will help to preserve our resources for the future.

We urge you to support this valuable program, as it presents excellent opportunities for strong, enduring and meaningful coastal resource protection. Thank you for considering their request.

Respectfully,

Sal Steinberg

Van Duzen Team Leader

Community Coordinator Friends of the Van Duzen

Carlotta, California

Sal Stember

CC: Donna Bero, Executive Director, Adopt-A-Watershed



Thinking Ahead: W.A.T.E.R.

Watersheds And Their Ecological Relationships

Promoting eco-literacy through stewardship and science education

August 8, 2003

Neal Fishman Assistant Director California Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, Suite 1100 Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Mr. Fishman,

We are a new Leadership Team participating in Adopt-A-Watershed's Summer 2003 Leadership Institute. We understand that Adopt-A-Watershed has approached the Coastal Conservancy for support in delivering their educational leadership programs in coastal communities. As one of the teams that work to protect coastal resources, we hope that you will consider this request.

The Adopt-A-Watershed program is a crucial aspect of our work at this time. They are helping us to develop the community capacity to restore and protect our local watershed through several means, including leadership development, environment-based educational pedagogies, strategic planning and much more. Their model of combining education with environmental stewardship has enabled us to build a strong program that resonates with the community we are trying to engage.

As we build a new program in the Humboldt Bay region, we urge you to support this valuable program. It presents excellent opportunities for strong, enduring and meaningful coastal resource protection.

Thank you,

Cheri Sanville Team Leader

Humboldt Bay Leadership Team

Eureka

CC: Donna Bero, Executive Director, Adopt-A-WatershedJuly 3, 2003

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AUG 1 9 2003

COASTAL CONSERVANCY OAKLAND, CALIF.





Pescadero Conservation Alliance

July 24, 2003

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John N. Wade Executive Director Randy Bennett Operations Director David Houston Volunteer Projects Coordinator Mr. Neal Fishman Assistant Director California Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, Suite 1100 Oakland, CA 946 2-2530

Dear Neal.

This summer I had the great pleasure of attending the Adopt-a-Watershed training with a team of people we organized from Pescadero. The workshops included excellent team-building and educational program development training. In addition to the Pescadero Conservation Alliance, our team included teachers from the La Honda-Pescadero Unified School District and the San Joaquin Outdoor School.

One of the most important benefits of working with Adopt-a-Watershed is the statewide network of allied groups that their training program connects us to. These connections allow each local group to get moving quickly and share experiences that reduce the learning curve substantially and gives each new group a web of support for growth.

We have already begun implementing many ideas for combining educational programs in all of our schools with environmental field studies, agricultural programs and practical environmental restoration projects.

We strongly support Adopt-A-Watershed's request to the Coastal Conservancy for support in delivering their educational leadership programs in coastal communities. It is an excellent program that will move coastal and watershed protection forward in many communities. Thank you for considering their request.

Best regards,

John N. Wade

Director of Restoration and Government Relations

(and Team Leader, Pescadero Watershed Team, Pescadero)

CC: Donna Bero, Executive Director, Adopt-A-Watershed